

745 Glencoe St.
Denver, CO 80220
May 16, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: #98N-1038 "Irradiation in the production, processing and handling of food"

To Whom it May Concern:

I demand prominent labeling on any and all foods produced, processed and handled with radiation that includes the terms "irradiated" or "Irradiation" and the use of the radura symbol.

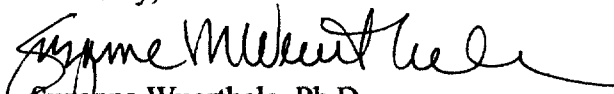
Your proposed alternative terms ("cold pasturization" or "electronic pasteurization") are inaccurate and *intentionally misleading*. Irradiation is not pasteurization.

Further, your proposal to have no statement on irradiated foods is also misleading because irradiation destroys vitamins, causes changes in sensory and spoilage qualities not obvious to the consumer, and of course, produces radiolytic products, the full safety of which are unknown.

I deeply resent this attempt to deceive people into eating irradiated foods, when poll after poll shows *we do not want to eat them*. This trickery is especially repugnant when we are frequently told that federal agencies intend to be "transparent".

As a consumer I deserve and demand to know what is in foods I am being offered so that I can make an informed choice about what I eat and feed my family.

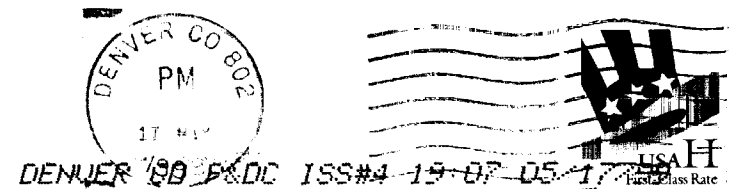
Sincerely,


Suzanne Wuerthele, Ph.D.

98N 1038

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